

For Immediate Release:
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Children's Hearing
& Speech Centre of BC

CELEBRATING 50 YEARS
FOUNDED 1963

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Deaf and hard of hearing celebrate fifty years of listening and talking!



Vancouver, BC - Stephen O'Keefe, (l) Matthew Udovicic (c) and Bowen Tang (r) are three generations of Children's Hearing and Speech Centre (CHSC) alumni students (formerly known as the Vancouver Oral Centre) who are looking forward to the Centre's fifty year anniversary celebration. Since 1963 parents have brought their deaf and hard of hearing children to CHSC to learn to listen and TALK. CHSC alumni and current family, friends and staff will be attending the reunion picnic on Saturday September 21st from noon-3:00 pm at the Centre at 3575 Kaslo St. in Vancouver. The free event will have lots of family friendly activities and a delicious barbeque.

At Children's Hearing & Speech Centre of BC, located in Vancouver, BC, children who are deaf and hard of hearing are learning to listen and to speak. And while sign language was once considered the most common and visible option for deaf and hard of hearing children, a deaf child may begin to wear a hearing device when he or she is in infancy. A combination of early intervention, technology and education makes the dynamic—a deaf child listening and speaking—a reality.

Stephen O'Keefe, businessman, lawyer and current Board Chair is an alumnus of the Centre. His parents were instrumental in the early years and continued growth of CHSC, as they were committed to making sure there

was a program for not just their deaf son, but for the children that would follow. Bowen Tang received individual therapy services from CHSC when he received his cochlear implant in 2001. A stalwart volunteer and summer camp teacher, Bowen has proven to be a valuable role model for children and an inspiration to parents. Seven year old Matthew from Burnaby, has a bilateral profound hearing loss. Matthew has attended CHSC since he was two years old and will be entering a mainstream school with his hearing peers in September. He will continue to be seen by a hearing resource teacher from CHSC to support him in his transition.

If you or someone you know attended Vancouver Oral Centre or Children's Hearing and Speech Centre of BC and would like to attend the reunion picnic, please RSVP at www.childrenshearing.ca.

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To arrange an interview with a CHSC current or alumni student, or learn more about a listening and spoken language education, please contact:

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